THE

GENUINE MEMOIRS

OF

Dennis O'Kelly, Esq.

COMMONLY CALLED

COUNT O'KELLY:

[Price 2s. Sewed.]

BRITISH MUSEUM

196. 13. R. h. 9.

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COUNT O'KELLY:

Containing many curious and interesting Anecdotes of that CELEBRATED CHARACTER, and his COADJUTORS on the TURF and in the FIELD, with a Variety of authentic, singular, and entertaining MILITIA MANOEUVRES, never before published.

LONDON:

Printed for C. STALKER, STATIONERS-COURT, LUDGATE-HILL.

MDCCLXXXVIII.

W. Musgrave.

ERRATA.

In page 6, line 25, for *he could begin* read, *he began.*
In page 9, line 16, for *effect* read, *affect.*
In page 10, line 14, for *motion* read, *emotion.*

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

THE

GENUINE MEMOIRS

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Dennis O'Kelly, Eſq.

TO perpetuate the memory, and vindicate the fame of diſtinguiſhed characters, is the buſineſs and the duty of impartial Biography; but it is a buſineſs and a duty too frequently perverted and abuſed. The proſtitution of genius, in this very depraved and excentric period, is as common and enormous as that of beauty; and the neglect, or rather contempt of truth, prevalent as that of virtue. Conſcious of this literary reprobation, and viewing the conſequences with abhorrence and diſguſt, it is the honeſt intention of the preſent Biographiſt, to ſtate nothing in this narrative that will not bear the teſt of enquiry: and as

ſeveral ſpurious accounts of the very extraordinary character, which is here delineated, and which, no doubt, will be ſucceeded by others equally deluſive and erroneous,---He invites, with confidence, a compariſon which muſt produce the verdict of authenticity.

MUCH controverſy, and many aſſertions have taken place, with regard to the ſpecific part of the ſiſter kingdom, in which the late Lieutenant Colonel O'Kelly was born: but as that is, in our opinion, of very little conſequence, we ſhall content ourſelves in declaring that he was a genuine offspring of that nation, which has, from time to time, for more than four hundred years, produced heroes and heroins of every degree and deſcription upon the ſcale of human exiſtence.

WHEN we ſay that his parents moved in a humble, perhaps a humiliating walk of life, we muſt, at the ſame time, obſerve with Dean Swift, "that whoever would wiſh to be acquainted with the true ancient nobility of Ireland, muſt reſort to places of the loweſt denomination, and converſe with people of the very loweſt claſſes."—A remark, which we

we believe would hold good in every conquered country in the univerſe.

In what particular ſphere the father of our hero moved, we cannot, with certainty, advance. To be unnoted, is the privilege of obſcurity; but, his brother was ſo very low an artificer as that of a *Brogue-maker*, by which he earned a miſerable exiſtence for a numerous family. As to education, we can prove by inconteſtible evidence, that even the idea of that recommendatory and uſeful quality would never have exiſted in the family. The Colonel, before he left Ireland, was, from neceſſity, obliged to contract certain ſmall debts, for ſome of which he gave acknowledgments, ſigned only with his mark, and that ſo extremely indicative of vulgarity, that one cannot but behold him in his more elevated ſpheres, with approbation and aſtoniſhment!

Admitting, as the world muſt do, the minutiæ of his parentage, birth, and education, to be of little conſequence to our readers, we ſhall here draw a veil over the early parts of his life, and abruptly introduce him in that

great, attractive variegated theatre of Europe, the metropolis of Great Britain, about the year 1748, and about the age of twenty, and, here it becomes neceſſary to give our readers a ſketch of thoſe qualities of mind and body, by which the gradations of his life were directed.

DENNIS KELLY, for ſuch were his names, and by ſuch alone could he have been diſtinguiſhed in the onſet, was about five feet eleven inches high, very broad in the ſhoulders, and equally deep cheſted. His legs well proportioned, and his hands finely formed by nature for thoſe manual exertions, which nature had apparently intended them, and to which, with a laudable ſpirit of induſtry, he very ſhortly applied them,—*the poles of a Sedan chair*. His features were neither irregular nor unpleaſing, though ſtrongly marked with *the varnacular*; but his voice, (the very reverſe of melody) not only aſſailed, but wounded the ear. It was what might be termed the broadeſt and the moſt offenſive brogue that his nation, perhaps, ever produced. His mental attributes ſeemed to bear a juſt proportion with the ſtamina and

ſtrength

ſtrength of his body. He poſſeſſed an accurate retentive memory, and a diſcriminating judgment, which he had a manner of applying with advantage, and without offence, to objects which did not concern him. His intuition was not only agreeable, but ſurprizing, for its comprehenſion was univerſal. He had been but a ſhort time in London before he was intimately acquainted with moſt characters, moſt events, and moſt probabilities. Many and oftentimes has he carried great perſonages, male and female, whoſe ſecret hiſtories have been familiar to his knowledge, and often has he *bleſſed the honour* of thoſe whom he well knew poſſeſſed neither that nor any other good quality. How he acquired ſuch information, may naturally occur to diſcernment; but when it is known that Dennis had, by *certain recommendations*, introduced himſelf be-low ſtairs, aye, and above ſtairs too, into the houſes of certain great folks, the wonder would be removed, at leaſt in a great meaſure leſſened. To thoſe of a too ſceptical diſpoſition, the following well known fact may be fully argumentative.——One birth-day, when an unuſual number of the nobility attended the annual congratulations

of their Sovereign, the crowd of carriages, from one end of Saint James's-ſtreet to the other, was ſo unuſually great, that they were, in a manner, dove-tailed in each other; Dennis, and his brother *poler* Knights, plied to great advantage. A guinea was the common price of a Sedan, from the top of the ſtreet to the palace. Lady ———, whoſe name, with deference and reſpect for her amiable family, we muſt keep ſacred; having been a long time jammed in this uncomfortable way, at length ordered a chair, and it was the good fortune of our Hero to be her ladyſhip's foremoſt man. In helping her from her carriage, and diſperſing the crowd of ſurrounding gapers, Dennis acted with ſuch powers and magnanimity, that her ladyſhip conceived him to be a regeneration of Hercules or Hector, and her opinion was by no means altered when ſhe beheld the powerful elaſticity of his muſcular motions on the way to the Royal reſidence. Dennis touched her ladyſhip's guinea, and bowed in return for a bewitching ſmile which accompanied it. The fatigues of this propitious day being over, he could begin to ruminate upon the profits, but more upon the ſmile, which in fact was given with

ſuch

ſuch energy and meaning, as to penetrate both head and heart; but what ſpecific conſtruction to form on the matter, he was utterly at a loſs for. Had he been acquainted with the delicacies and refinements of high life, he would have known better. In a little time, however, the miſtery was explained. The very next evening, as he was ſtanding near the door of White's Chocolate-houſe, he was accoſted by an elderly woman, who aſked him the way to Bolton Row, and at the ſame time offered him a ſhilling to conduct her, as ſhe was quite a ſtranger in London: Dennis, who knew every place, immediately accepted the offer. They arrived at the houſe deſcribed, and he was aſked in to drink ſomething, the weather being extremely cold. An agreeable young woman, miſtreſs of the houſe, and who had been formerly chamber-maid at a noted Inn in Hounſlow, opened the door, and received *the ſtranger in town* with great cordiality and friendſhip.--" Do *you* know, ſaid ſhe, " addreſſing herſelf to our Hero, of any Chair-" man who wants a good place?" " Yes, " Madam," anſwered Dennis, " 'an that I " do: I ſhould be very glad to be after re-" commending myſelf, becauſe I know my-" ſelf,

" ſelf, and love myſelf better than any one " elſe."—" Why then, if you will go to " Lady ———, in Hanover Square, to- " morrow morning, I think you will be " hired; you need mention no name, but " ſay you heard of the place accidentally."— " God in Heaven bleſs you," replied Dennis, who, toſſing off his bumper of ſtout brandy, retired. The next morning our Hero dreſſed himſelf to the beſt advantage, and repaired to Hanover Square, where, after making proper enquiries, and being introduced to the houſe ſteward, he was hired at the rate of thirty pounds a year. A new livery was immediately ordered him, and the day following he was to enter into actual ſervice.

Let our readers but recollect, for a moment, the ſenſations which our Hero experienced, when he received that ſmile of complacency which accompanied Lady ———'s guinea, at Saint James's; and let them compare thoſe ſenſations with what he now felt when waiting in the Hall for the coming down of his new miſtreſs; he perceived, upon the landing place, the ſame identical perſon, who had ſo pleaſed, and ſo puzzel-

ed

ed his imagination: all was yet conſidered as merely accidental, or rather indeed, there was no time for reflexion; her ladyſhip paſſing him without the leſt apparent notice, hurried into the chair, and deſired to be ſet down at the Opera Houſe. Dennis, as foremoſt man, had a ſecond opportunity of obſerving her ladyſhip, who, ſtrange to relate! upon getting out, gave him a ſecond, and more ſignificant glance than when firſt he ſaw her. Upon her return, a third aſſault was more formidable than either of the former, and to this was added, a purſe containing five guineas, with a ſqueeze of the hand, which had, altogether, ſo powerful an effect upon our Hero, as to effect that bodily ſtrength ſo neceſſary to his duty. Upon trembling limbs, however, he performed his office, and aſſiſted in conveying his enamoured miſtreſs to her auguſt manſion. The next day our Hero was kept conſtantly employed in meſſages to Mantua-makers, Milleners, Perfumers, Hair-dreſſers, &c. and, among others, he was ordered to deliver a ſmall parcel in *Bolton Row*, the identical houſe from whence he received his recommendation, and to wait until he received an anſwer; there he was

ſhewn into a back parlour, warmed by a prodigious fire, and lighted with four wax candles. To divert *the tedious time*, a tankard of mulled wine was preſented him, and the female, from whom he received it, informed him, that her miſtreſs was not expected home for ſome time: ſhe had, however, ordered her to take *care of him*, and ſhe was very happy in his company; ſhe was, ſhe ſaid, much alarmed at being *alone*. Dennis, who never miſſed an opportunity of kiſſing a pretty girl, and improving upon female condeſcenſions, and in whom, the warm room and hot wine began to work with extraordinary motion, replied, that "upon his ſoul he was equally happy, and wiſhed to be more ſo,"—at the ſame moment raiſing up her *modeſt* down caſt countenance,—who, in the name of wonder and delight did he behold, but L —— herſelf! As this publication is intended for the virtuous, as well as vicious eye, we muſt conceal from the one, what the experience of the other may eaſily ſupply. Some hours were ſpent in mutual happineſs, and the *fair diſguiſed*, after reſuming her proper attire, departed as ſhe came, in a Hackney-coach, which was in waiting a few doors from the houſe. If any

thing

thing could add to the aſtoniſhment, as well as tranſport of, our Hero, it was, his being detained for ſome time after the departure of his noble paramour. He, at firſt, ſuppoſed caution to be the motive, but he was ſoon undeceived; in a few minutes after her ladyſhip's departure, *the ſtranger in town*, who he had conducted from Saint James's-ſtreet, entered the apartment, and with infinite eaſe, congratulated him upon his good fortune, which ſhe obſerved, would never have been complete, but for her aſſiſtance. She had, ſhe ſaid, taken uncommon pains to *fix* him, and ſhe expected he would reward her in proportion. His fortune, ſhe ſaid, was made, and her's, as well as her miſtreſs's, depended, in a great meaſure, by making their advantage of ſuch matters. She knew, ſhe ſaid, that her ladyſhip had given him a purſe, and ſhe expected he would ſhare it, like a man of honour. Dennis, who now began to know the value of money, heſitated for ſome time, and then recollecting himſelf, aſſured her with an oath, ſwore that he had not received a *ſingle* guinea.—"Come, my "dear *creter*," ſaid *the ſtranger in town*, "come along with me, and I'll ſhow you the difference;" taking him by the hand, ſhe

led him to the front parlour, where, removing a ſmall looking glaſs, ſhe pointed to an aperture, from whence the diſconcerted Dennis could diſtinctly ſee every part of the room, in which he and her ladyſhip had ſo long continued, as they thought, unnoticed. With reluctance and confuſion, he now produced the purſe, which he had not before examined, and found it contained no leſs a ſum than twenty-five bright guineas, ten of which, the *ſtranger in town* claimed, as her moderate right, which ſhe aſſured him ſhe muſt account for to her miſtreſs. For ſeveral months did the amorous Counteſs and her Hibernian Hercules carry on this illicit intercourſe, and if it had not been for a diſcovery made by Lord ——————, of a ſimilar affair in high life, Dennis would have ſaved a conſiderable ſum of money. But the conſequence of this diſcovery was, her ladyſhip was turned out of doors, and all her ſuit diſmiſſed, and afterwards divorced according to law.

THE money which our hero had ſaved in the ſervice of this *virtuous matron*, gave him, however, a taſte for eaſe. He could no longer endure the cold walkings and fatigues of his original pro-

profeſſion. He threw off the long coat, and, purchaſing ſmart clothes, reſorted to ſmart places, Vauxhall, the Play-houſe, Tennis Court, Billiard Tables, &c. &c. and there it was that he firſt acquired that invincible diſpoſition for play, which proved in the end, the happy ſource of his good fortune, but before he obtained that knowledge, which produces *certainty*, he found himſelf quite run out. In vain, he applied to the generoſity of thoſe, who he then found, had plundered him; in vain he remonſtrated to their feelings. But in their breaſts, the ſeeds of humanity was corrupted, and cuſtom had, in them, entirely obliterated all ſenſe of ſhame. *Mr. Kelly*, for ſo he was now called, being thus reduced, became ſtill further humbled. He was compelled to become, firſt, a marker at a Billiard Table; and then, to accept the ſame offer in a Tennis Court, where he acted as the drudge and attendant of thoſe very perſons, who had actually robbed him. In thoſe ſituations, it was, that he firſt converſed with the great. The preſent Duke of Richmond, when a youth; the late Sir William Draper, of amiable and lamented memory; and ſeveral

veral who permitted, or rather obliged him, for their amuſement and convenience, ſometimes to take a part in their matches. His diſpoſition for dreſs and play continuing, and his occaſions far exceeding his means, our Hero got conſiderably in debt, and his creditors growing impatient, apprehenſive, and angry at certain diſhonourable efforts, he was at length arreſted, and thrown, without money or means, into the Fleet priſon. In this gloomy common wealth! this ſource of riches to the affluent! this accumulation of miſery to the diſtreſſed! what expedient was left for human induſtry? While his cloaths, and a few little moveables remained, he barely exiſted; and when all was completely exhauſted, he became, O lamentable verſatility of fortune, attendant in the Tap, and lived by carrying out porter to his fellow priſoners! In this ſituation, he was diligent, affable, and obliging. In the tap-room, he was diſtinguiſhed for his jolly ſong, and his reputation extending to the private apartments, his company was frequently ſolicited among convivial circles. That well known prieſteſs of the Cyprian Deity, that love and mirth admiring votreſs, to pleaſing ſenſuality, the well

known

known Charlotte Hayes, was then an inhabitant of the ſame manſion, when, under all the real horrors of impriſonment, ſhe did not forget to perform her midnight orgies, or ſacrafice to the powers of love and wine. The ſame attributes which attracted the notice of Lady ——— ſoon caught the well experienced optics of Charlotte, and the ſame ſervices as ſoon obtained, though in an infinitely leſs degree, the ſame kind renumerations. Mr. Kelly, quitting the meneal avocation of tapſter, now devoted the whole of his time to Charlotte, and Charlotte, in return, devoted to him, not only her perſon, but her purſe: time paſſed without care, and attachment became ſo ſtrong, that no circumſtance in future life, could ever diſſolve or ſhake the union. Charlotte had many friends, it is true, but policy induced her to ſee them with complaicency. Her affections were ſtill centered in our Hero, and on him were all the pecuniary favours, which ſhe received from others, beſtowed with unbounded liberality. Hence, after a durance of three years, he was enabled to liquidate his debts, and once more to immerge from the reſtrictions of a priſon! and with him the fair ſource and partner of his liberty. We

muſt

muſt not, though it had almoſt ſlipped our memory, forget to mention a circumſtance which occurred to our Hero whilſt he remained in the Fleet priſon, and which, though apparently trifling to the unambitious, facilitated the fame and fortune, which he afterwards acquired. There are, in this varied world, certain aſpiring geniuſes, who purchaſe titles, even at the expence of reputation; ſuch as Generals without command or commiſſions, and Knights, whoſe ribbands alone bear the bluſh of modeſty. There are others, who extort, or are not aſhamed to accept of titles from the Majeſty, whoſe power and conſequence they have abridged; and there are others alſo, who with the genuine ſpirit of true nobility, let their actions claim what their high ſenſe of honour diſdains to challenge! Of this latter ſort, was the Hero of theſe Memoirs. We have already obſerved, in juſt compliment to his taſte, that he was fond of diſplaying his perſon, in point of dreſs, to the beſt advantage. Hence it was, that wherever fortune favoured him with pecuniary donations, his wardrobe was, literally ſpeaking, exceedingly ſplendid! A gentleman, who had been for ſome time an inhabi-

tant

tant of the Fleet, became at length ſo very popular, as to produce a revolution in government. From democratic, he had the addreſs to eſtabliſh a monarchical conſtitution, and, like King Theodore, was unanimouſly elected Sovereign, by the full ſuffrage of the people: by the bye, like Theodore, he died a victim to inhumanity, and a diſgrace to Great Britain. This potentate, obſerving our Hero's bias, beſtowed upon him the title of *Count*, which ſpontaneous and voluntary honour he retained to the laſt moments of his exiſtence, with unqueſtionable and univerſal approbation.

In a ſhort time after the emancipation from the Fleet, he became intimately acquainted with a claſs of beings commonly known by the denomination of black legs, that is, thoſe Equeſtrian Heroes, who are invariably ſeen at every capital Horſe-race in England; among thoſe, he acquired an irreſiſtible taſte for the ſame avocation. He was ſoon initiated, and as ſoon became an adept in the profeſſion. The famous horſe, Eclipſe, bred by the late Duke of Cumberland, was, that time, to be diſpoſed of, and

the Count hearing that a friend had intereſt and inclination to purchaſe a ſhare, prevailed upon him to let him in for a part thereof; the bargain was accordingly made, and the Count's intereſt, in the firſt inſtance, amounted to half a leg, that is, the one half of a quarter. The prodigious ſucceſſes of Eclipſe, are too well known to need obſervation in this place. He kept the turf for many years, and long before the meridian of his fame; the Count, growing œconomical, ſaved money enough to purchaſe out the other proprietors, and to become ſole owner of the beſt, and moſt fortunate horſe, both as to ſpeed and breed, in the world; But the great advantages of the firſt, were ſoon loſt by the intoxication of his maſter, who being too much elated with good fortune, gave a challenge, by which, though he ſucceeded in the inſtance, he defeated all future expectations. The caſe was this. A ſet of eſtabliſhed *knowing ones*, with whom the Count was ſpending a convivial evening, began to depreciate the merits of Eclipſe, and alleged, that his ſucceſſes depended more upon chance, and the imperfections of thoſe horſes, who ran againſt him, than his own abilities.

The

The bait took, and the Count inſtantly offered any wager, that Eclipſe ſhould diſtance one or two horſes then mentioned. A day was accordingly appointed, and ſuch was the wonderful ſwiftneſs of Eclipſe, that he won with eaſe. The Count, however, ſhortly found himſelf taken in, for the conſequence was, that no horſe in England would enter the liſt of competition with Eclipſe after. The count, notwithſtanding found conſolation in the prodigious emoluments which he derived from him as a ſtallion, and his numerous progeny, have, for the moſt part, inherited all the qualities of their anceſtors.

About this time, his favourite and patroneſs, Charlotte, took a very elegant houſe in King's place, and the Count, whoſe affections were unaltered, aſſiſted in the double capacity of lover, and, to uſe a phraſe of a late coinage, a flaſh-man, which was nothing more than a generous protector from the violence of modern buckiſm.

And now we come to treat of our Hero, in a ſituation, which, to thoſe who know the

form of a Militia Commiſſion, that "his Ma-
"jeſty repoſing ſpecial truſt and confidence in
"the *loyalty*, *courage*, and *conduct*" of the hol-
der, will appear extraordinary indeed, and which
we are called upon to account for, by the fol-
lowing narrative. About the year 1760,
when the militia was firſt ſettled upon its
preſent eſtabliſhment, the county of Middle-
ſex, to its diſgrace, was extremely backward
in raiſing their proportion of national de-
fence. The city of Weſtminſter had not
taken a ſingle ſtep towards a meaſure ſo
neceſſary and patriotic, at a time when the
regiments of other counties were fit for actu-
al ſervice. A well known military, turbulent
Scot, whoſe family had been active in the
Rebellion of 1745, and had ſuffered much in
the Stewart cauſe, conceiving this to be a
good opportunity of filling his pocket, and
retrieving his loſt honours, ſet about raiſing a
regiment in Weſtminſter and with ſuch activity
and zeal did this bold buſtling North Britain
proceed in the buſineſs, that Government
noticed his exertions, and promiſed to eſtabliſh
the regiment ſo ſoon as three-fourths of the
commiſſions ſhould be filled up. This was,
however, a more arduous and difficult matter;
than

than was at firſt conceived. The *military mania*, did not, at that time rage, as was the caſe during the laſt war, and many of the more reſpectable corps remaining unofficered; what muſt be the ſuppoſed ſituation of this band of illuſtrious City Mermidons! The indefatigable energy, however, with which the undaunted Scot proceeded, was not to be repelled. He ranſacked the town and its vicinities, and, holding out commiſſions indiſcriminately;------- among the motley group, our Hero ſtood conſpicuous, as an Enſign, from which ſtation he roſe, by regular gradations, and with a regular good character, to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

THE compliment of commiſſions, being at length filled up, Mac Gregor, for ſuch was the name of the Caladonian adventurer, attained his point. It was called the Weſtminſter Regiment of Middleſex Militia, and Mac Gregor was appointed Adjutant, the only lucrative ſituation in the corps. In a ſhort time after he contrived to be appointed Captain, and was, in fact, every thing in the regiment, from Serjeant to Colonel. Commiſſions

miſſions and halberts were ſold, like any other marketable commodities; and, ſtrange and unprecedented as it may appear, every promotion depended upon a *douceur* to Mac Gregor! For inſtance; a *certain taylor*, and well he may be called *certain*, being ſo, both by name and profeſſion, had ſome knowledge of the Adjutant, and actually bought a company for about two hundred pounds, which was then conſidered to be a prodigious price. However, Snip, like his nameſake in the pantomime, was determined to repel the foe, and, therefore, borrowing the money from a friend, he quit his ſheers and his ſhop-board, and, like a bold warrior, entered the liſts of martial enterprize. We muſt, indeed, confeſs, that in this, like honeſt Joe, he was ſtimulated by his wife, whoſe ambition to be a Captain's lady, forced her obliging huſband into all the dangers of a campaign, and compelled him to return home with the head of a conquered flea, inſtead of a Swiſs guard's, upon the point of his poliſhed needle; after ſuch a glimpſe as this character and appointment muſt give our Readers, they will naturally wonder, that a man of title, rank, fortune, and character, could be prevailed upon to take any com-

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mand in the Weſtminſter diviſion of Middleſex Militia; yet, wonderful to relate, Sir Thomas Frederick, a gentleman, poſſeſſing all thoſe claims, was bold enough, in a moment of ſeduction and conviviality to take the command; and no leſs a reſpectable character, than Sir John Gibbons, inveigled, by a precedent ſo diſtinguiſhed, accepted the Lieutenant Colonelcy. The difference of ſituation between thoſe gentlemen and the other officers, was truly remarkable and ludicrous. Lamb, the Major, (not the Lamb immortalized by Foote) was a common mechanic, we believe, a watch-maker; and the Captains and Subalterns were, in general, really ſo low and obſcure, as to be beneath the level of contempt or obſervation.

FROM this period, until the late war, when the militia was called into actual ſervice, in the Spring of 1778: we muſt quit the Count's military character, and ſpeak of him in the more intereſting and more profeſſional avocation of a gambler, whoſe whole time was, without interruption, devoted to play and chance. The *manœuvre* which prevented

ed him from running Eclipſe, reduced, or at leaſt reſtricted him very much in his circumſtances. The breed of that diſtinguiſhed animal, were yet too young for ſervice, and, tho' the higheſt expectations were formed of their ſucceſs, it was with the utmoſt difficulty, the Count could ſupport the expence of keeping and training them, they were, literally ſpeaking, at times, upon *ſhort allowance*. In the years 1775, 1776, and1777, to ſuch ſhifts was he driven, that temporary ſums were raiſed upon part of his moveable property. Charlotte began to grow cloſe fiſted; ſhe had been drained for many a long day, and being but a ſhallow miſtreſs of ſpeculation, thought the old proverb, of the bird in hand, the beſt guide of her conduct: ſhe therefore ſaved her money, and with ſuch ſavings, built the houſe on Clay-hill, near Epſom, which, upon retiring from buſineſs, ſhe lived in, with great elegance and hoſpitality, and of which, the Count was oſtenſible maſter. The furniture was of the firſt claſs, and the ornaments, which by the bye, had been, it is ſaid, from time to time, preſented for meretricious ſervices done in King's Place, were various and magnificent.

THE diſpoſitions of Charlotte and the Count, were in moſt reſpects congenial, but in nothing did they more entirely vibrate, than in hoſpitality and good living. They kept open houſe during the time of every public meeting; and the Count poſſeſſing, among other happy talents, that of reconciling apparent oppoſites, contrived to entertain the Peer and the Black Leg at the ſame table. The Duke of Cumberland and Dick England; the Prince of Wales and Jack Tetherington; Lord Egremont and Ned Biſhop; Lord Groſvenor and Monſieur Champreaux; the Duke of Orleans and Jack Stacie; Meſſieurs Leech, Piggot, Davis, Twycroſs, &c. &c. &c. &c. were frequently ſeen at the ſame table, and circulating the ſame bottle with equal familiarity and merriment. It muſt, however, be remarked, to the honour of the hoſt, that he never, on any account or pretence whatſoever, permitted play, or betts of any kind, to be made at his table, or in his houſe; nor would he ever propoſe or accept the moſt trifling wager in private company; for whenever an attempt of that kind was made, he immediately, and with deciſion, aſſerted the prerogative of his

Caſtle, and extinguiſhed the purpoſe in the very moment of its firſt glimmering.

SUCH were the hoſpitalities, ſuch the good living, and ſuch the conduct of Clay-hill. Who keeps the beſt houſe in England? was the frequent queſtion.—O! Kelly, by much—Who the beſt wines? O! Kelly, by many degrees.—Who the beſt horſes? O! Kelly's beat the world.—Who the pleaſanteſt fellow? who? O! Kelly.—In ſhort, ſuch was the frequent uſe of that ejaculatory vowel upon every occaſion, referring to the Count, that at length it became incorporated with his original name, and the harſh gutteral of the conſonant K, was ſoftened by the modeſt melody of the liquid O.—No more humble Dennis Kelly.—No more Mr. Kelly.—No more Count Kelly! we muſt, in future, at leaſt until his military promotion adds conſequence to his prior additions, call him by no leſs a title than Count O'Kelly; who, claiming the genealogy of Iriſh potentates, from the days of the Spaniſh emigrant, Melliſus, declared himſelf equal in point of nativity, to the greateſt men in Europe.

As ſoon as the reſtrictions above mentioned, were intirely removed by the auriferous atchievements of the prolific Eclipſe, the Count's mind, which was reſtricted in proportion, began to expand to a degree of liberality, and indeed munificence, rarely met with among the children of chance. He was attentive to the diſtreſſes of his friends, and, with a generous hand, relieved the indigent. It was his pride to contribute to public and private charity, without diſtinction of country or religion; and his relations, who were, for the moſt part, acquainted with poverty alone, he viſited with bounty and affection.

His brother, who lived in Ireland, and was, as above hinted, a diſciple of the famous Prince Criſpin, he ſent for, and, if his natural talents had admitted of improvement, or could have been applied to a more reſpectable avocation than ſuperintendant, or what is jocularly called Maſter of Horſe to the Clay-hill ſtables, Philip would have certainly moved in a more exalted ſphere; but his ability, as well as ambition, being gratified, he went through the duties of that humble ſtation,

with

with chearfulneſs and unabated aſſiduity; the latter of which was the leading feature in him as well as his elder brother.

He alſo invited his two nieces and their mother to participate his good fortune, and placed them in eligible ſituations, and his nephew, the gentleman who ſucceeds to his poſſeſſions, he ſent abroad, in the handſomeſt and moſt gentleman like manner, to finiſh an education, which originated in Ireland, at his uncle's ſole expence.

Having made thoſe ſeveral domeſtic and family arrangements, O'Kelly devoted the whole of his time, except when called to the annual meeting of his regiment, to his ſtud, and to the ſpeculations of the turf, in which he diſcovered ſuch ſtrong and ſcientific abilities, as aſtoniſhed his coadjutors, and puzzled, and confounded his competitors; and, in the practice of which, he was ſeldom unfortunate. So accurate were his calculations, that happy was the man who could obtain, even a ſincere *hint* of his motives; but his ſecrets were in general, indeed, almoſt invariably confined to his own breaſt. He has been

been accuſed, and we believe with ſome truth, of deceiving thoſe, to whom he profeſſed attachments; and a certain *French Editor*, who loſt 500l. by betting, according to his advice, was once near putting an end to his exiſtence, with a heavy poker; the blow was however warded off by the interpoſition of a friendly arm, and the lives of two *excentric characters* ſaved to the community.

NOTWITHSTANDING the prodigious influx of money, which our Hero derived from the ſources already mentioned, ſuch were the enormous expences of his ſtud, his houſe, and his donations of friendſhip; and, conſanguinity, that in the year 1778, we find him again ſtreightened in his circumſtances, in ſo much, as to borrow money on his diamond ring, to aſſiſt the expences of joining the regiment, which was, in the ſpring of that year, embodied and ordered on actual ſervice. We have already obſerved that he was an Enſign, but at this time, we find him advanced to the rank of Captain of Grenadiers. Having fortunately met with the public newſpapers of that period,

period, in which the hiſtories of the ſeveral officers of the Weſtminſter diviſion of Middleſex Militia, who marched towards the ſea coaſt, to repel the then threatned invaſion, are candidly developed, we muſt not withhold from our Readers, an exhibition, which, from the humour and ſingularity of its nature cannot fail of giving entertainment. Indeed it is ſo immediately connected with the remainder of this Memoir, that we could not, without injury, keep it back.

Mr. James Chauvel, the Colonel, had formerly been a waiter at Saint Alban's Tavern, to which he ſucceeded as Maſter. This gentleman, from what cauſe we cannot aſſert, was diſtinguiſhed but for few ſtricking qualities, among which were thoſe of exceſſive meanneſs, and *baſhfulneſs*, a character the very reverſe from what might be expected in a Vintner. He had alſo an irreſiſtible paſſion of peculation *, and the wretched men, under the mockery

* With ſuch an arbitrary hand was this deſcription of *ſecret martial manœuvres* carried on, that the Colonel, in conjunction with the Agent and Major, actually withheld even

mockery of his command, ſuffered exceſſive hardſhips on account of his avarice.

THE poſt of Lieutenant Colonel was filled by one Burbridge, an honeſt Farmer, and a man totally ignorant of military diſcipline, *Honeſt Hodge*, never failed to communicate the miſapplication of the Lord Lieutenant in giving him a military command. For example, whenever he was applied to on regimental buſineſs his uniform anſwer was, "What do you aſk me for? I do not know."

The Major, without whoſe knowledge and activity it is impoſſible for diſcipline to exiſt, was a Mr. Barlow, a ſuperannuated

even a part of the Captains pay, and for which one of them, (Matthew Hamilton) at the concluſion of the War, commenced an action and recovered a Verdict to a conſiderable amount. The Colonel's propenſity to *ſave* his *cloathing* was not altogether ſingular. Coxheath Camp was once in confuſion, from the murmurs of another Militia Regiment reſpecting the cloathing, and it was no uncommon ſight to ſee our provincial troops as ragged as Falſtaff's. This is accounted for when the reader is informed that government iſſues *money* to the commanding Officers for the cloathing of Regiments, and that they conſequently go *the neareſt way to work.*

Mercer,

Mercer, and ſo complete a martyr to the gout, that one of his feet was inverted into that form by which the inveterate foe of man is diſtinguiſhed; but, as a Major, diſabled from walking, might yet be an active Officer on horſe-back, an acquaintance with the one would have abſolved him from inconveniences of the other. To the diſgrace however of the Weſtminſter corps, Barlow was equally incapable of both. Bred behind a counter, his journies on horſe-back never exceeded the * *Cockney's round*, or thoſe of Major Sturgeon, and his figure, could ſcarcely be exceeded by the caracature of a Bunbury.

As eldeſt Captain we muſt now introduce our Hero. — The ſtation which he held he conſidered but as merely convenient to a vanity which could be by no means condemned. It not only gave him a real denomination, but the additions of a gentleman, and it was with that view, and

* Hamſtead and Highgate are called "The Cockneys round" from the Plebeians flogging their hired hacks to the firſt, and returning through the latter village home.

no other, he condeſcended to ſuſtain it. Upon every occaſion he was ſeen at the head of the Grendaier Company; and it is but juſtice to obſerve, that he bore the moſt ſoldierly appearance of any officer in the regiment. Of diſcipline he was, at this time, totally ignorant, and whenever he attempted to perform the moſt trifling evolution, he betrayed an aukwardneſs, that immediately diſcovered his general deficiency. In ſupport of that ſuperior perſonal aſpect, which he always maintained, he was conſtantly attended by an expenſive retinue, carriages, &c. and Charlotte, who travelled in the rear of his company, with her ſeparate ſuite.

The officer next in rotation, was the redoubted Gregor Mac Gregor, by whoſe activity the regiment was originally raiſed. From its eſtabliſhment to this period, he had held the poſt of Adjutant. He was a pupil of the old military ſchool, and as far as ancient prejudices would admit, knew what he was about; but growing unfit for the activity of his ſtation, he was permitted to diſpoſe of it, for about one thouſand guineas, and retained as a nominal Captain in the regiment.

THE third Captain was Mr. Thomas Sockwell, formerly a Tea-dealer, but who had quitted the effluvia of that effeminate calling, and, in obedience to the rougher calls of martial fame, reſigned the ſcoop, and aſſumed the ſpontoon. Whatever might have been this gentleman's original character, it was impoſſible, at this time, to determine; it was loſt "in ſecond childiſhneſs, and mere oblivion."

MR. JAMES TAYLOR, (the Taylor)—The fourth link in this extraordinary chain of Captains, we have already glanced at. He was, on account of his profeſſional prejudices, ſo univerſally diſliked, as to be, what the army terms, *ſent to Coventry*; nothing, however, could extinguiſh that extraordinary heroic ſpirit, which urged him to relinquiſh his trade. He had *purchaſed* his Commiſſion, and was reſolved, however odious to the regiment, to enjoy the diſtinguiſhed appellation of Captain. This gentleman held Court Martials and Courts of Inquiry, at total defiance. The Colonel was his friend, and he ſnapt his fingers at every ſubordinate enemy. This *worthy*, is, we obſerve by the militia liſt,

liſt, in conſequence of the death of O'Kelly, the firſt for promotion to the *majority*.

THE fifth was Mr. William Parſons, early in life, a boatſwain's mate in the Navy. On the concluſion of a former war, having ſaved ſome prize money, he retired to, what in the redundant luxury of his ambition appeared both eaſe and happineſs, a little ſnug Ale-houſe, in London or Weſtminſter. He contrived, however, to agree tolerably well with the regiment, except with our Count, who held repeated arguments with him, on the ſcore of *education*, and, who having acquired the advantage of writing his name, made that the teſt of ſuperiority.

WHEN Mr. Parſons ſent his qualification from the head quarters, he employed a confidential private ſoldier as his amanuenſis; but the letter was ſo utterly unintelligible, that the clerk of the peace could by no means decypher it. He accordingly communicated the difficulty to Captain Parſons, who, together with his amanuenſis, in the character of a ſervant, came up to town, for the ſole purpoſe of explanation. For this curious anec-

dote we are indebted to Mr. Selby, the Northumberland factotum, who gives it at full length, with infinite ridicule and risibility.

THE youngest, and the most excentric Captain in the corps, was Mr. William Hundeshagen, a native of the Netherlands, and a man, whose indigence of pocket, mind, and person, was equally evident. He was about six feet in altitude, and yet, so miserably anatomized by famine and disease, that he had not six ounces of flesh upon his whole frame. Time, also, had ungenerously thinned his locks, and scattered over his ancient cranium, the grisley blossoms of approaching dissolution. His hands and feet were of that uncommon form, which we observe in our modern *Castratos*; when nature diverted from its regular courses, wanton in the joints, and extremities of the human body: His knees were so extremely inverted, as to form an obtuse angle with his feet, and to rub the knees of his breeches into constant tatters. To these personal defects, we cannot avoid adding, that Hundeshagen was the acknowledged *toad-eater* of Sir Thomas Frederick, who, not only treated him with contempt and inhumanity, but actually invited the

the other officers to make him the butt of their ridicule and ill-nature.

It has been already mentioned, that Mac Gregor was permitted to diſpoſe of his Adjutancy for a thouſand guineas. The perſon who made that purchaſe, now becomes the object of remark. Mr. Whitfield, for ſuch was his name, was, by birth, a gentleman, and brought up a ſoldier: he had been a Captain in the army, and enjoyed the liberal donation of half-pay. Being of an active diſpoſition, and wiſhing to improve his little ſavings, he entered the corps in the only profitable ſtation, that of adjutant; ſoon, however, diſguſted at the idea of ſubordination among a ſet of men, whom he ſecretly deſpiſed; he contrived to rediſpoſe of his Commiſſion at an advanced price, and upon undertaking to raiſe an additional Company, which by the bye, the officers did not ſcruple to ſay, that he obtained his men from the Companies already eſtabliſhed. The Colonel, thought proper to wink at the abuſe, and there being then no general muſter, the thing was paſſed over without public notice. At Plymouth, Mr. Whitfield grew weary of his

ſituation

ſituation as Captain alſo, and, with the concurrence of the Colonel, accepted from one Len, a conſiderable douceur for the ſucceſſion.

BEING releaſed from Militia duty, Mr. Whitfield was again devoted to temporary inaction, and, being poſſeſſed of indefatigable induſtry, and happily aided by uncommon effrontery, he offered his ſervices to government, to raiſe a regiment. He was at firſt refuſed, but ſuch was his extraordinary perſeverance, that he at length overcome every objection, and brought Sir George Young to a concurrence. The war, however, being over, and the corps of courſe diſbanded, we now find Mr. Whitfield, ſtill intent upon public ſervice, a magiſtrate for the City of Weſtminſter, taking his rotine of *civil duty* with his worthy Coadjutors.

WE cannot diſmiſs this part of our narrative without obſerving, that when the Weſtminſter Militia was far diſtant in the Weſt of England, the ſeveral Manœuvres thereof, and therein, private, and public, were well known in the South. The volunteer company was, during that

that period, at Twickenham, and Twickenham was the medium of all communications. The vigor of Mr. Whitfield's diſpoſition was not eaſily ſuppreſſed, and it is more than probable, that his intervals of military receſs were filled up with efforts of literary information.

HAVING with impartial truth deſcribed this moſt extraordinary and heterogenious corps of officers, it would be injuſtice not to contraſt their deficiences and demerits with the no leſs extraordinary good conduct of the private man, who though deprived of ability in command, yet acted with a degree of ſpirit that did them honour. At Plymouth, when many regiments were tormented by diviſions and diſobedience, the Weſtminſter Militia was actually an example of regularity and alacrity, as far as ſuppoſition will admit, in undiſciplined ſoldiers. At one time, when the fleets of France and Spain were ſeen hovering at an inconſiderable diſtance from the ſhore, there were innumerable deſertions, and one from the Wiltſhire, who lay neareſt the ſea, and next to this corps. The privates of the Middleſex taking fire at ſuch ignominious conduct in thoſe, who before had looked on them

them with an eye of inferiority, could ſcarcely be prevailed upon to reſtrain their reſentment, and from turning the arms, intended to repel a foreign enemy, againſt their own daſtardly countrymen. But, to illuſtrate ſtill further, the ſtriking difference between officers and ſoldiers, it is worthy of remark, that at Coxheath, when the former were ſcolding, ſtriking, kicking, and bruiſing each other like Billingſgates, and porters, two of the private men, having a ſerious quarrel, agreed to decide the matter like gentlemen, and actually appeared in the front of the line with drawn bayonets for that purpoſe. The ſpectacle was ſo uncommon, and the rebuke to their commanders ſo bold and direct, that it became a topic of comparative converſation in all public and private circles, and rendered the *Commiſſioned Heroes* of the corps ſtill more and more odious and ludicrous.

THUS officered, and thus manned, was the Middleſex Militia during its marches from London to Goſport; from Goſport to Plymouth; from Plymouth to the extremities of Cornwall; from thence to Chatham, from Chatham to Lancaſter, and from Lancaſter

caſter to London again, were diſembodied, a circuit which occupied a ſpace of five years! Count O'Kelly, however, did not at any time, or on any occaſion, ſacrifice to that duty his more profitable avocations: he and his ſoft aſſociate, Charlotte, were frequently on the road, travelling with magnificence, and the Count, as uſual, always preſent at, and the life and ſpirit of every principal race meeting in England. The offspring of Eclipſe carried all before them, and the coffers of his maſter again teemed with riches. The uſual rotine of gaiety and friendſhip was continued, and Epſom, and its proximities, felt the good effects of his ſocial and generous diſpoſition. But though our Hero did not ſacrifice to military enthuſiaſm, he, nevertheleſs, attended every important and neceſſary duty. When the vaunting vanity of our national enemies threatened us with an invaſion, which in fact, they never intended to attempt; no man could poſſibly evince a braver, or a more active and determined courage. Upon every alarm he appeared all ardour, and ready to puſh himſelf into the poſt of honour; and as this was the criterion of true heroiſm among the officers, his real and animated ſpirit formed a

ſtriking contraſt to thoſe higher in command. We do not mean to inſinuate a *general panic* in the corps, for moſt of them behaved with unexceptionable reſolution, but the conduct of others, particularly the Colonel, threw the whole into univerſal deriſion. The medical effects of fear are well known to individuals; ſo ſtrongly did that *purgative* work upon the conſtitutions of ſome of thoſe we allude to, that the *temple of Cloeſina* became the alternate and eternal Citadel of their proweſs. So conſpicuous and predominant was the effect of fear upon them, that the other officers were actually deterred from obeying the dictates of nature. On the unfortunate capture of the Ardent Man of War, who miſtook the combined fleets, for that of Great Britain, every broad-ſide which ſhe fired upon the headmoſt ſhips, previous to her ſtriking her colours, was anſwered by the moſt violent exploſions of flatulency from this odoriferous fortreſs, while the ſoldiers were cheering upon the ho pes of a general engagement between the two fleets.

It was upon this occaſion, and others of a ſimilar nature, that O'Kelly uſed to laugh loud

loud and inceſſantly. " Where are your " field officers now," cried the Count! " Come forth from your S——— houſes, " your Counting-houſes, and your pecu- " lating deſks! here's the enemy on the " beach!" But ſuch vociferous ſummons's had not the deſired effect. The firing having ceaſed, that moſt magnanimous of all military Heroes, Captain Taylor, at length, came forward. His manly eyes ſuffuſed in tears, and his palid viſſage, expreſſive of equal grief and horror; " My dear friend," ſaid he, " you ſee what we have brought " ourſelves to; a pretty affair this, to be " knocked o'the head by the French; I " wiſh to God you would ſtep in and ſee " me ſign my will. As you are a gentle- " man, and a man of ſenſe as well as cour- " age, I requeſt you will do me the favour " to draw it out for me, and accept the " office of executor." The Count, who at firſt, imagined this requeſt to be an inſult to his literary deficiency, was preparing to anticipate his apprehenſion, by putting him to death in reality, but the other moſt ſeriouſly and ſolemnly aſſuring him, that he meant nothing more than what he expreſſ-

ed. The rage ſubſided, and after ſufficiently venting his reſentment at ſuch puſillanimous conduct, the Count calmly adviſed him, *not to make his will till* after the *danger was all over*. On the parade, at the meſs, and every where did the Count, with repeated and loud riſibility, relate the ſtory of *Fort Cloeſina*. The regular returns of artillery, from that quarter, and the woeful countenance of the teſtamentary Captain, who, when the firing was really all over, loſt every idea of a will.

To ſuch a pitch of ſovereign contempt did the military conduct of thoſe gentlemen, and certain other field Officers throw them in the opinion of Captain O'Kelly, that he convened a general meeting of the corps, and propoſed that a ſpirited application ſhould be made to the then Duke of Northumberland, Lord Lieutenant of the County, to have them removed; a letter was accordingly written, and, ſigned by more than twelve of the corps, requeſting his Grace would redeem the regiment from the diſgrace in which the mental and bodily infirmities of thoſe men had involved it. At the head of thoſe ſignatures

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was Captain O'Kelly's, and next to him, that of Captain Whitfield. This addreſs appeared in the public papers of the day; but whether from the extreme badneſs of the compoſition, or what motive we know not, it was anſwered by no means agreeably to the wiſhes of the party. In a few words his Grace deſired he ſhould hear no more of the matter!

SUCH, however, was the general deſire of having the regiment diſmembered of thoſe obnoxious *limbs* (our readers will excuſe the pun) that a ſecond meeting took place, and a ſecond letter, and more ſpirited paper was drawn up, and ſigned as before. Upon this occaſion the debates ran to an uncommon length, ſo high, indeed, as to threaten the uſual conſequences of a Poliſh Diet! the Colonel's party, however violent in harrangue, were nevertheleſs, too feeble for the exerciſe of arms, and the aſſembly broke up in the fermentation of words alone.

THIS ſecond paper (or remonſtrance) being preſented to the Lord Lieutenant was ſomewhat more graciouſly attended to. His advice was, however, to let the buſineſs drop, peace

peace he obſerved would ſoon ſuſpend Militia duty, and humanity(which he alſo recommended to the Officers) induced him to let the poor men retain their ſtations. They were, he obſerved, in general old; and, nature would ſhortly accompliſh what the appellants ſo much, and, perhaps with ſo much propriety demanded.

THE ſeveral marches and counter marches of this invincible regiment, were conſtantly participated by Charlotte, and, whether the God of love had, during thoſe times, preſented her at the alter of Hymen, we do not preſume to aſcertain. Certain it is, that if reputation, and cohabitation, were ſufficient evidences of Matrimony, the performance of that ceremony muſt have been confirmed in the minds of the World. Yet, not leſs certain is it, that while ſhe, together with the Count's Nephew, then Lieutenant O'Kelly, was in the Weſt of England, ſhe was arreſted for a conſiderable ſum, by the name of *Charlotte Hayes*. The debt was contracted while ſhe ſupported the *Cyprian Temple* in King's Place; and was rather *neglected* than *with-held*; for, it muſt be acknow-

acknowledged that, during her ſeveral campaigns with the Militia, no woman could have maintained a better conduct. Her converſation was delicate and agreeable, and her manners conciliating, from gentleneſs and modeſty. Every engagement was religiouſly fulfilled, and every debt honourably diſcharged. When this accident took place the Count was at York; but ſuch, and ſo univerſal was the reſpect in which Charlotte was held; indeed ſuch were her claims upon friendſhip and gratitude, that the Officers would have, not only, diſcharged the action, but diſmiſſed the Bailiffs, *extempore*, perhaps, to that Country where *lattitats* are not permitted. It was, however, thought more adviſable to give bail, that the true nature of the debt might be known, and the exact balance aſcertained; and this was accordingly done, what became of the matter afterwards, is by no means material; it is only mentioned here as an unqueſtionable evidence of that eſteem, which the conduct of Charlotte, at that time, ſo well deſerved, and which ſhe ſo liberally enjoyed.

When this tranſaction took place, we have already obſerved the Count was at York,

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He was attending the races; which were remarkably crowded that ſeaſon. The breed of the unrivalled Eclipſe, as uſual, kept her field; and the Count's ſpeculations were more than uſually fortunate. He carried every thing before him! But his ſucceſſes were unfortunately followed by an accident which not only deſtroyed all his popularity on the turf, but had nearly put a period to his life. His winnings were by no means adequate to the pecuniary conſequences of a tranſaction which irritated and ſurprized the World.

In direct oppoſition to the fate of a celebrated and unfortunate ſtates-man, * it was the Count's lot always to occupy *the beſt inns, beſt rooms,* and to ſleep in the ſofteſt and moſt ſumptuous bed. Having, as uſual, ſecured an apartment, and a bed of this deſcription, and having had three nights peaceable occupation, it could never enter his thoughts that any perſon, Male or Female, would attempt diſturbing his poſſeſſions. However, it ſo happened, that on the fourth night,

* Villers, Duke of Buckingham.

after

after drinking freely, and enjoying much conviviality, he took what is commonly called *French leave* of his companions, and going ſoftly to his chamber, found the door faſtened; whether locked, or but ſlightly bolted, we cannot poſitively affirm; but, it was in ſuch a ſituation, as to be opened with little difficulty. An extinguiſhed candle ſtood on a chair by the bed, which was cloſed all round, naturally excited no ſmall degree of wonder; curioſity was incidental. The Count gently drawing back the ſilken curtain, to his aſtoniſhment and delight, beheld a moſt enchanting female countenance!

THE chiſſel of Bonerotto! the pencil of Corregio! never formed more captivating charms. For ſome time our Hero ſtood, like Cymon, the celebrated clown, when he firſt beheld the beauties of the ſleeping Ephigenia; but his emotions ſubſiding, cautious, and almoſt deprived of breath, he looked round the apartment, in hopes of diſcovering ſome articles of dreſs, or ornament, which might lead to conjecture, who this lovely intruder was; but in vain,

he could only diſcover a faſhionable riding-dreſs, a watch, without any particular mark of diſtinction, and the other common accommodations of women. After ſome time, he reſolved to let delicacy and honour predominate; but paſſion, ſtimulated by too much champaigne, proved too powerful. He conjectured, and perhaps with probability, that this beautiful female, being enamoured of the vaſt ſums, he was publicly known to have won at the meeting, deviſed that method of ſecuring, by artifice, and agreeable ſurprize, what a more regular plan might have failed in effecting. No ſooner did this idea ſtart into his heated imagination, than, regardleſs of all reſtraint, he commenced ſuch violent hoſtilities, as ſoon awoke the terrified, unknown, object of his ſenſuality. In an inſtant ſhe ſtarted up, and ſcreaming with extreme vociferation ſoon alarmed the houſe. In vain our Count endeavoured to parley; in vain to pacify; the chamber door was ſoon attacked by numbers, and he was obliged to eſcape, with difficulty, out of the window, which was, by accident, convenient for the purpoſe. The lady, who was altogether as chaſte, as ſhe was charming, proved to be

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the daughter of a Roman Catholic Baronet in that county. She related the particulars of the accident, as well as her fright and knowledge, would permit; and her friends being numerous and powerful, would, but for her prudent and amiable entreaties, have made an inſtant example of her intended raviſher. The affair, however, did not end here, a proſecution enſued, and the matter would have been brought into a Court of Law, had not the Court, by the interpoſition of *certain great men*, contrived to compromiſe it on the following terms.—He firſt made his *amande honorable*; then begged pardon in the public prints, and gave five hundred pounds to be diſpoſed of in ſuch charitable uſes as the offended party thought proper. Some are of opinion, that to thoſe engagements was added, a ſolemn promiſe of never going into Yorkſhire again; but this we think apochryphal, and do by no means pledge ourſelves for its authenticity; we muſt obſerve though, that from the unfortunate period alluded to, our Hero never viſited the north, in which county he was conſidered, by the ladies, A SATYR: and by the gentlemen,

who very laudably entertained a proper ſenſe of female protection, A RUFFIAN.

THE cauſe of the young ladies nocturnal invaſion could never be rightly accounted for. Beds were, no doubt, ſcarcely to be obtained by fair means, but it was yet extraordinary, poſſeſſion ſhould be obtained by means ſo unprecedented and extraordinary.

SCARCELY had our Hero recovered from the conſternation, fatigues, and enormous expences of this buſineſs, when he was moſt diſſaterouſly involved in another, equally troubleſome, and more humiliating. He, and the famous England, before mentioned, having ſome diſpute reſpecting a debt, or the diviſion of a play profit, became, from diſtinguiſhed friends, the moſt inveterate, and avowed enemies. Whenever, and wherever, they had fair opportunities of calumniating each other, they were ſure to indulge their reciprocal reſentment, perhaps without ſtrict adherence to truth. England, who was in the habits of turning every thing to his own advantage, at length determined to finiſh the matter to the Count's diſgrace. He knew

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of a party which was ſoon to dine at Medley's, in Round Court, and at which his quondum friend was to preſide, and he was intimately acquainted with every other individual. One in particular who lay under pecuniary obligations to him, and was bound to his ſervices, not only by gratitude, but fear, he juſtly conceived to be a proper inſtrument for his purpoſe. He engaged him to touch upon ſomething in the courſe of the evening which ſhould lead the Count to his uſual abuſe; and, then, affecting to be offended, to quit the room on a ſudden, in apparent diſguſt.

ENGLAND, who critically adjudged the time, was ſtationed in the coffee room, below ſtairs, and of courſe enquired into the cauſe of his friends emotions. The matter being explained, in an affected Paroxiſm of ſudden anger, he ran up ſtairs, and, without ceremony, or enquiring, flew at the poor Count, who, being extremely ill of the Gout, was totally incapable of defence, and loaded him with blows, reproaches, and execrations; and ſome others of the company interfering, met with the ſame fate. England was athletic, and reſolute, and this being a *Coup de main* of his Politics,

Politics, he ſpared neither ſtrength nor agility on the occaſion. The perſons in the coffee room ran up ſtairs, and were witneſſes of a ſcene not only ridiculous, but which actually eſtabliſhed every intent of the deviſor. Being at laſt prevailed upon to ceaſe his coerſion, England retired in all the puff of victory; but the Count was too much bruiſed and diſconcerted, to be removed that night. He was therefore compelled to take a bed with his *merry friend* Jack *Medley*, and the next day, by advice of his Attorney, a law-ſuit was immediately commenced. Notwithſtanding the Count's purſe was open to every profeſſional demand; notwithſtanding the cauſe was aſſiſted by the ableſt council; notwithſtanding the evidence was full and unqueſtionable; notwithſtanding the aſſaultwas clearly eſtabliſhed; and notwithſtanding the preſumed advantages of a ſpecial Jury; upon the iſſue of this important trial, which occupied the court of King's Bench for ſeveral hours; ſuch was the complexion given to it by Lord Mansfield, that no more than ONE SHILLING damages was allowed.

When our readers recollect the ſeveral military tranſactions at Plymouth; the wonderful repulſive

repulſive efforts of *Fort Cloeſina!* the ſummonſes charges of the Count, when the Enemy were ſuppoſed to be on the point of landing. The laſt will and teſtament of the Colonel's boſom friend; the two conventions of the Mal-contented Officer; and, the applications to his Grace of Northumberland, they will not be ſurprized to hear, that, upon the death of Burbridge, the Colonel flatly refuſed to recommend the Count for the Majority, a promotion to which he had an undoubted right from ſervice and ſeniority. He had, however, too high a ſpirit to be bar'd of this right by low and pitiful reſentments; and therefore claimed, from juſtice and honour, what would, if poſſible, have been refuſed by illiberality and meaneſs. His attempt proved ſucceſsful, and his commiſſion, as a field Officer, was ſhortly made out, to the no ſmall mortification of his enemies. The pre-eminence which he had heretofore derived from money, ſplendor, and ſpirit, was now eſtabliſhed by rank; and, though it did not gain in proportion to the royal delegated favour, it yet loſt nothing in the progreſſive dignity of his ſtation. His field equipage,

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and the ſtile of his table, did credit to his *promotion*, and his demeanour was ſuch as increaſed his reſpectability; and what is ſcarcely credible, that wonderful, intuitive faculty, which he inherited ſo ſtrongly from nature, enabled him to exerciſe the regiment ſeveral times before his Majeſty, and a number of General Officers, to their entire ſatisfaction, and, we may add, aſtoniſhment.

About this period, the health of Charlotte made it neceſſary for her to be frequently in London; ſeparated from a life of gay and giddy diſſipation, ſhe acquired a laſſitude and anxiety of mind and body, which all the variety of the country, and the ſtudd, could not remove. Chiddick, who had long been Phyſician to the *eſtabliſhment in King's place*, and retained as ſuch, with a fixt ſalary, ſtill ſupported his medical ability in her opinion, and to be near him, the Count indulged her with almoſt the ſole uſe of the houſe in Piccadilly. There ſhe amuſed herſelf with the decorations of fancy, and the ornaments of approved taſte; and, as her complaint was chiefly mental, there alſo, ſhe diverted thought by a variety of animated objects, ſeveral domeſtic

domeſtic and foreign animals; but, above all, that wonderful parrot, whoſe rare and aſtoniſhing faculties, if it was not yet alive to prove their reality, would ſcarcely be believed, even by the moſt credulous. It was hatched in Briſtol, and is perhaps as ſingular in its nativity as in its other qualities. It coſt the fond Count fifty guineas, beſides the expences of bringing to town, and we believe ourſelves warranted, in declaring, that it would at this period produce five times that ſum. Mr. Locke, in his inimitable diſcourſe upon innate ideas, gives an account of a Peruvian bird, of this ſpecies, which he mentions as a wonderful inſtance of inſtinctive ſagacity. It would, he ſays, not only repeat every thing it was commanded, but it would anſwer many queſtions which appeared to require a higher degree of perception. He ſtates a few inſtances, and then concludes, with proving that *all* was derived from example. But when we compare the qualities of the bird in queſtion, to thoſe mentioned by the Philoſopher, we muſt, without the imputation of partiality, give it the preference. *It* not only repeats all things, but anſwers almoſt every thing; and, ſo ſtrong is its retention, that it ſings a variety

of tunes, with exquiſite melody! it beats time with all the appearance of ſcience, and, wonderful to relate, ſo accurate is its judgment, that if by chance (for it is merely ſo when it happens) it miſtakes a note, it reverts to the bar where the miſtake occurred, corrects it ſelf, and, ſtill beating regular time, goes through the whole with miraculous exactneſs. In addition to this we muſt add, that it ſings whatever air is deſired, and intimates an expreſs knowledge of every requeſt. To this aſpiring imitator of reaſon, Charlotte devoted much of her time, and ſeemed to enjoy more ſatisfaction from its ſociety than that of her own ſpecies. * But while ſhe was thus ſtriving to divert the ſymptoms of an hyſteric affliction, and was almoſt become an eſtabliſhed Convaleſcent, an accident happened at New-

* Such of our readers as were acquainted with the Count, during his military exploits laſt War, will perhaps diſcredit this account, becauſe it will immediately occur to them that a Parrot, infinitely leſs ſagacious, accompanied all his motions. The bird in queſtion, was an acquiſition long ſubſequent to the diſembodiment of the Militia, and notwithſtanding its great ſuperiority, the Count, in gratitude to the firſt for ſervices, nearly divided his favor between them.

market

market, threw her back exceedingly. Major O'Kelly's nephew, and heir, who was with her, as he muſt be with every perſon who knows his merits, a peculiar favourite, was gallopping over the Courſe upon a remarkably good horſe, the animal, by ſome unaccountable accident, fell, and broke its leg; young O'Kelly, was not materially injured; but as rumour ever increaſes in its journey, eſpecially when the object is misfortune, by the time this accident reached the ears of Charlotte, it was magnified to diſlocations, fractures, amputations, and all the melancholy conſequences, which might poſſibly have attended ſuch an event. At the intelligence ſhe expreſſed a kind of maternal grief, and it was many months before ſhe recovered from the effects. For this tender and ſincere affection, the Major always retained a lively ſenſe of gratitude, and often mentioned it with uncommon emotions of regard.

FORTUNE, which had for ſo many years, and with ſo much ſtability, favored our Hero, did not ſtop at the honor conferred upon him, in being appointed to the rank of Major. She had ſtill other gifts in ſtore; and the demiſe of

the Lieutenant Colonel (Barlow) afforded an opportunity of augmenting her favour.

His old inveterate enemy, Chevaul, was ſtill alive, and, as we may naturally ſuppoſe, ſtill averſe to his promotion. Of this the Count was well aware. To be applied to for a recommendation, was a thing of courſe, and Chevaul, if he was not ſure of preventing his ſucceſſion, was at leaſt ſo, of ſhewing him his diſlike by a peremptory refuſal, as in the former inſtant. Judge, therefore, the mortification of this *Veteran*, when he found that, diſpenſing with formalities, the Major had applied to the Lord Lieutenant in perſon, and was actually appointed, without his ſuffrage, or knowledge to the ſecond rank in the regiment. When mankind enter the ſhade of evening, every adverſe incident disjoints the frame, the ſhadow lengthens as the ſubſtance fails, whether this, or the ſuits which Captain Hamilton, and the Lieutenant Colone brought, facilitated his diſſolution, we can not determine, in imputing it to all, we believe we may not err.

Upon

UPON receiving his new commiſſion, it was naturally expected, by thoſe Officers who had ever been of his party, that the Count's elevation would be attended with ſome diſtinguiſhed inſtance of friendſhip and eſteem; but ſo far was he from expreſſing ſuch ſentiments, that to a ſplendid entertainment, of which Lord Derby and ſeveral of the Nobility and Gentry of Lancaſhire, were preſent, he did not invite an individual of the corps. A conduct ſo ungrateful, and ſo ſtrongly tinged with upſtart inſolence, could not fail of producing great enmity and ridicule, and it is a fact, to the honour of thoſe who was of that party, that even they joined in the general cenſure and diſguſt.

NOTWITHSTANDING this unexpected and unpopular decline of military favour, the importance of Colonel O'Kelly on the turf, ſeemed for a time, to increaſe daily. His opinion became more and more authoritative, and his company more and more ſolicited, in ſhort he was regarded as the oracle of his profeſſion. Our illuſtrious and all accompliſhed heir apparent was among the number of

of thoſe who admired his knowledge, and condeſcended to make a match with him in favour of the famous horſe Rockingham, againſt the no leſs famous Duncannon, ſon to Eclipſe, and O'Kelly's firſt favourite. The immediate bett was one thouſand guineas, but, it is ſaid, and univerſally admitted, that more than one hundred thouſand were depending upon the event. The eaſe with which Duncannon won this important match, nearly involved him in the ſame misfortune which we have already noticed, when ſpeaking of the *Manœuvre* practiſed upon Eclipſe.

In a ſhort period after this victory of Duncannon, the ſhameful parſimony of a cloſe-fiſted and narrow-minded Miniſter, gave the Prince of Wales a glorious occaſion of diſplaying his heroic honeſty. The facts are too well known, and the Prince's conduct too univerſally admired to need repetition, or applauſe. Among other expedients for the relief of his diſtreſſed tradeſmen, the royal ſtudd, though an object ſo alluring to a young and elevated mind, was cheerfully diſpoſed of, and, with the other ſacrifices to miniſterial penury, Rockingham, the favourite of his

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Royal owner, was knocked down by the hammer of Tatterſal, for a ſum very far inadequate to his worth. Bullock, who, with Colonel O'Kelly, always appeared in the van of horſe racing, made the purchaſe, and in ſome time afterwards challenged him to a ſecond trial of Duncannon's ſpeed. The invitation was accepted, and a day accordingly appointed for the conteſt. Betts were equal to the former, and the ground as much thronged; when, lo! to the diſappointment and indignation of every one preſent, and the diſapprobation of all who heard of the tranſaction, at the moment when the ſtart was expected, the Colonel arrived; and, after looking for ſome time at Duncannon, who was then near the poſt, ordered him to be led off the Courſe. The confuſion occaſioned by this unexpected procedure can better be imagined than expreſſed; the Count was execrated in all quarters, and, it is thought, if he had not avoided danger, by a judicious retreat, he would have experienced the ſevereſt reſentment of the multitude.

It is the common obſervation of judicious ſpeculators, and obſervers of human nature, that

that diſpoſitions alter with time, and that the different ages of life preſents us in points of character extremely oppoſite. As our Hero advanced towards his '*Bourne*' he exhibited this truth in a variety of ſtriking inſtances.

His brother, whom he had generouſly invited to ſee, and ſhare his good fortune, felt its progreſſive force for many a tedious and painful hour, nor would even the gentleneſs and humility of his nature, repel the ſhafts of fraternal aſperity. Often would he interrupt this uſeful, affectionate, and inoffenſive kinſman with an unnatural moroſeneſs, and when the perſuaſive eloquence of ſilence and ſubmiſſion pleaded moſt powerfully in his favor, ſuch was the corroſive cruelty of age, that the breaſt which ſhould have vibrated with the ſympathy of blood, remained dead to every feeling but that of wanton reſentment. His nephew, a young and ornamented character, and who he intended to perpetuate his name, did not eſcape the inconvenience of this incidental change. It is true, he granted him many gentleman-like purſuits; but, notwithſtanding, few men ever launched into a wider ſea of pleaſure and diſpoſition than did the

the Count himſelf, ſo far was he from making any liberal allowances, that Andrew was always obliged to conceal the little indulgences incidental to youth. Caution, however, did not continually ſcreen him: for, the old man would frequently lecture upon a mere ſuſpicion of what his memory informed him, was inherent and unavoidable. Charlotte was the object leaſt obnoxious to this increaſing acrimony, and it is extremely probable that ſhe leaſt deſerved it; the reſt of his family were dependants upon his favour, but Charlotte claimed as a moral right, every indulgence in his power, and, we believe, ſhe fully enjoyed her intereſt.

THIS alteration of temper, ſcarcely, however, exceeded the bounds of domeſtic concerns; our Hero ſtill endeavoured to preſerve the good opinion of the world:--his public munificence was ſupported without abatement, and his good humour, anecdote, and eaſe, ſtill continued to make his company agreeable. His repartée and raillery too, were acceptable, though ſevere, and O'Rourke, whoſe ſoul was made of fire! could ſupport his jokes with complacency. O'Kelly,

who well knew, that, giving his name all the legendary conſequence, aſcribed to Hibernian anceſtry, it could by no means ſtand the teſt of competition with that of his friend and fellow Count, would yet endeavour to maintain precedency; and though that topic, of all other, was the moſt delicate, and indeed, dangerous with O'Rourke, the conteſt generally ended in favour of our Hero.

A SPIRITED part in, and a liberal donation to, the Hibernian charity, inſtituted in this kingdom, by the Earl of Bellamont, were the laſt public and praiſe-worthy acts of Colonel O'Kelly's life; at leaſt, the laſt we are acquainted with. The annual meeting of this charity, he attended as long as health would permit, and was once called to the chair by a reputable and benevolent aſſemblage of the moſt illuſtrious perſonages in both kingdoms. In which flattering ſituation, he expreſſed that propriety of conduct, which produced both approbation and eſteem.

THERE is another philoſophic remark, which, we believe, holds equally good, and ſeems to have been equally verified with that already

already made. When we draw near the verge of another life, we grow ſolicitous, and reſtleſs of our ſituations in this. The Count now began to be weary, not only of his reſidence at Clay-hill, but of the heterogeneous companionſhip which its proximity to Epſom, in a manner, compelled him to ſupport. His old friends too, reminded him of old times, and he wiſhed, perhaps, to avoid an unpleaſing retroſpection. Be it as it may, about two years ago, he purchaſed the houſe, domain, and eſtate, called Cannons. which we are warranted in believing, was the firſt Militia qualification he ever poſſeſſed. It muſt be remembered that Clay-hill is in the county of Surry.

THAT expenſive and luxurious manſion, known by the denomination of Cannons, having, for ſome time, been a topic of univerſal converſation, and in fact, a topic exceedingly worthy of univerſal communication, we ſhall take leave to preſent our readers with a ſhort ſketch of its genuine hiſtory. The late Duke of Chandos, while he enjoyed the lucrative poſt of Maſter of the Ordnance, accumulated much wealth, and willing to leave

poſterity a ſplendid ſpecimen of his magnificence and taſte for architecture and improvement, made choice of a ſituation in the county of Middleſex on the Edgware Road, and about twelve miles from the metropolis.

WHAT made his Grace chooſe that ſpot, except it was to overcome difficulties, we cannot poſſibly imagine, for, in the formation of artificial ground alone, he expended many thouſand pounds, to which the advantage of proſpect was by no means adequate. The Manſion was ſuperb and extenſive, and the Out-offices, Gardens, and Grounds, elegant and beautiful. It was in fact, as has been mentioned in the daily prints, the boaſt and glory of its owner! but, notwithſtanding all its original grandure and apparent permanency, it was doomed to be the very ſport of time and fortune. When the Duke ſold off every thing, Hallet purchaſed it at a price, ſuppoſed at the time not to be half its value. But, when he carried his intentions into effect, pulled down the Manſion, and raiſed up the artificial ground,---incredible to relate! the materials altogether ſold for more money than the whole coſt him. Not ſatisfied

fied with this uncommon advantage, he converted the two avenue lodges into convenient and elegant houſes, one of which was afterwards occupied by Sir David Lindſey, and the other by a perſon of equal fortune. From this advantageous purchaſe it paſſed to O'Kelly, who, it is ſaid, was, conſidering the riſe of lands, nearly as fortunate. The houſe in which the Count lived was built upon the ſcite of the firſt Manſion, and is centered in the midſt of every thing deſirable; Garden and grounds beautifully diſpoſed, and one of the fineſt Deer-Parks in England.

A SINCERE deference for our readers, as well as compaſſion for human frailty, induces us to paſs over ſeveral ſubordinate traits in the life of this very ſingular character; ſuch, as unintereſting Coffee-houſe anecdotes; attempts at wit; nocturnal broils; and, the indecent intrigues of public and private Brothels. A life ſo varigated as was that of Colonel O'Kelly, muſt have abounded with the common occurrences of ſuch ſcenes; but we hold it highly improper that they ſhould be preſented to the general eye. They are fit only for the depraved contemplation of ſenſual and

and diſſipated minds, and are in our opinion more injurious to virtue and ſociety in general, than even the example of practical immorality.

In the latter period of his life, O'Kelly took many occaſions to expreſs a diſapprobation of his younger days; and, his teſtamentary conduct plainly proves the dread which he entertained of that courſe by which he was fortunate enough to accumulate wealth. His enemies, and perhaps no man in his line of life had fewer, would, if poſſible, depreciate his character by falſe repreſentations of facts, and by the exerciſe and fertility of invention. The ſtory of Miſs Swinbourne, of Yorkſhire, they exaggerate, by accuſing him of getting into *her* apartment; but, the truth is as we have ſtated, ſhe by ſome unlucky accident took poſſeſſion of *his*. Such however is, and has been, the character of this Lady, as to place her beyond the ſhafts of calumny. It has alſo been injuriouſly reported, that ſome time after his arrival in London, he was married to a woman of ſome fortune, and having obtained poſſeſſion of her money, deſerted her; but, this we believe to be entirely the fabrication of malice. No part of his ſubſe-

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quent conduct having ever manifeſted a tendency to ingratitude or inhumanity. Of his courage alſo ſome have ſpoken with contempt, yet, if he was deficient in that generous and manly quality himſelf, it was wonderful indeed; for, no man ever admired it more in others; and he was once compelled, by the intemperance of a hot headed countryman, to riſk his life in a Duel, in which he conducted himſelf with coolneſs and ſpirit. However the practice of duelling may be decried by refiners upon moral rectitude, it is, in our opinion, not only neceſſary to the ſupport of honor, but of juſtice alſo. It is an appeal which tranſcends every poſitive inſtitution, and ſcares the ſcoundrel more than any poſſible conſequence of legal indignation. In the public field of National duty, the heroic ſpirit is ſtimulated by emolument, by rank, by univerſal approbation.---In the no leſs laudable ſupport of private rectitude, the worſt conſequences are to be apprehended; yet, among men of honor, and we mean by that, men of *virtue*, it is, and ever will be regarded as the only means of reſtraining the moſt exquiſite violations of ſociety;--ſo far in ſupport of O'Kelly's courage.

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BEING completely eſtabliſhed in the delightful reſidence of Cannons, the proprietor became more ſelect in his company. He was viſited by people of the firſt claſs of his own ſex, and a few female friends, who were by no means exceptionable; and here he flattered himſelf with the hopes of ſpending a long and tranquil evening; but, alas! infirmity increaſed, and night fell on a ſudden. The Gout, that fatal, that conſtant concomittant of luxury and hard living, now attacked him with determined violence, and at length forced him from the gay ſcenes of conviviality, to the irkſome bed of Death. For ſome weeks before his diſſolution, nature kindly indulged him with a Lethargy, and thus happily ſoftening the painful rigors of his diſorder, he expired with every evidence of bodily eaſe. Doctor Warren was his Phyſician, and as far as human ſkill would admit, aided in the compoſure of his exit. When he found nature began to fail, he collected a degree of fortitude, not common to men in his ſituation, and under the circumſtances of his life. He made a judicious diſpoſition of his property, by Will, and, in truth, as his career was a leſſon of wonder, ſo was his death an example of imitation.

FINIS.

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